"Own Your Wagon Scheme" in Railways

1985. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please to state:

(a) whether the "Own Your Wagon Scheme" is popular among customers of the Railways;

(b) if so, what is the number of wagons owned by customers under this scheme;

(c) what are the nature of difficulties faced and complaints made by the wagon owners; and

(d) what steps will be taken to make the scheme effective?

THE MNINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders for 4214 wagons (10535 four wheelers) have been placed by different customers and 1801 wagons (4503 four wheelers) have already been procured under this scheme upto 30.6.96.

(c) Difficulties faced by the wagon owners include timely procurement of wagons after placing orders, guaranteed clearance of goods and issuance of post dated cheques for payment of lease charges.

(d) Consequent upon Users Interactive Meetings held with trade, efforts are on to recast the OYW Scheme, taking into account the various suggestions received with a view to make it more "customer oriented".

Foodgrains Production in Orissa

1986. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the stagnation in the foodgrains production in Orissa during the Seventh and Eighth Plan period;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to double the foodgrains production in the State;

(c) if so, the target fixed for the 9th Plan; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the foodgrains production in that State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The production of foodgrains in Orissa during the Seventh and Eighth Five year Plan period has shown positive trend with fluctuation in intermediate years, which is attributed to weather factors

(b) and (c) The targets of production of foodgrains for Ninth Five Year Plan has not been fixed so far.

(d) In order to increase production and productivity of foodgrains in the State of Orissa, two Centrally sponsored scheme viz., Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) and National Pulses Development Programme are being implemented.

Charges in Environmental Impact Assessment Notification

1987. SHRI MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be please to state:

(a) whether any changes have been made in Section III(c) & IV of para 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification dated 27th January 1994, as notified in the Gasette of India No. 42;

(b) the reasons for which these changes were necessitiated; and

(c) whether 'Summary of the feasibilioty reports', the recommendation and the conditions, subject to which environmental clearance is given, and Environ-

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mental Management Plans will be made available to the Public and concerned environmental agencies and persons, without any condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The changes were made to bring about greater clarity.

(c) Summary of the feasiblity reports, the recommendation and the conditions, subject to which envrionmental clearance is given, shall be made available, subject to the public interest of the concerned parties or environmental groups on request.

Pending UGC Research Proposals

1988. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The University Grants Commission has been unable to fund a large number of research projects of vital importance due to shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MNINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) University Grants Commission (UGC) provides requisite financial assistance to various universities and colleges for execution of research projects in different subjects and disciplines.

1996 amounted to Rs. 160.23 crores and Rs. 149.77 crores respectively.

(c) The revival package, inter-alia, envisaged fresh financial support, capital restructuring, higher production and sales, business restructuring, reduction in excess manpower etc. The capital restructuring as envisaged was agreed to and fresh financial assistance in terms of Plan, Non-Plan loans and Grant-in-aids was provided. In the year 1994-95, the actual performance of IDPL was Rs. 199.23 crores of production, Rs. 183.03 crores of Sales. The Company incurred a net loss of Rs. 77.52 crores. IDPL was able to improve its performance in 1994 over that of 1993-94 but the could company not achieve the targeted levels of production, sales and profitability.

Consequently IDPL management suggested modifications in the existing revival plan which inter-alia, envisaged additional financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 98.00 crores. The BIFR has since appointed IDBI, Bombay, as the Operating Agency (O.A.) for a techno-economic viability study and preparation of a long term rehabilitation plan for IDPL. The O.A. has not yet completed the techno-economic viability study.

Benefits From UNDP Scheme

1990. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefits derived from UNDP assisted 'Modern Fire Control Method' to save forests from